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Assistant Director, ORE

25 February 1949

Assistant Director, OO

Reductions in Foreign Broadcast Monitoring

1. The Head of the BBC Monitoring Service has informed Chief, FBIB, that budget limitations require the Service, among other cuts in its operations, to reduce its coverage of Finland, Scandinavia and the Russian Baltic states, and to discontinue almost completely its monitoring of voice broadcasts from the western zones of Germany and Austria. FBIB will be able to make compensatory increases in its own monitoring of Scandinavia and to a smaller extent Finland, but cannot monitor the Russian Baltic states nor the German transmitters at any of its locations.

2. Although the reduction of coverage is regretted, this office believes that the present significant yield from these segments of monitoring is not great and that if cuts are necessary the areas in which to make them have been well chosen.

3. Your comments on the above reductions are requested. With regard to Germany, it should be noted that full coverage of the Soviet Zone will be continued, and monitoring of DANA and DPD Western Zone news services will be maintained.

/S/

GEORGE G. CAREY

CO/FB:PKE:jg
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Third paragraph added by OO.

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